

Non-Defence Hot Issues

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PUBLIC SAFETY: Convoy

High Level Convoy Lines

- The community of Ottawa expects the law to be upheld and enforced by police, and public safety to be maintained.
- Since the beginning, the federal government has been there to support the City of Ottawa and the Ottawa Police Service providing 275 RCMP officers to help enforce the law.
- The RCMP remains ready to provide further assistance to the OPS, per Mayor Watson's request for additional personnel.
- While governments write laws, police enforce them. Operational decisions are taken by the police, independent of the government.
- Federal public safety partners, including the RCMP, will continue to work closely with the City, OPS and others to ensure that Ottawans feel safe in their community.

Ambassador Bridge Disruptions

- We are closely monitoring the ongoing disruptions at the Ambassador Bridge Border Crossing. While the Port of Entry remains open, blockades are causing significant disruption.
- These types of blockades have a critical impact on our economy and supply chain, and must end before they do further damage.
- CBSA is working with municipal and provincial partners to divert traffic to other ports of entry
- Our officials will continue to monitor this situation closely.

High Level Coutts Blockade Lines

- We continue to closely monitor the ongoing situation at the Coutts Border Crossing. While the Port of Entry is open, several highway blockades continue to cause serious disruption both for local residents and international trade.
- These blockades have already cost the economy over \$200 million, and they must end before they do further damage.
- The Government of Alberta is primarily responsible for the situation, while the federal government is coordinating closely and Minister Mendicino is in touch with his provincial counterparts.
- The CBSA has expanded opening hours at the Carway and Del Bonita, AB crossings to help travelers and trade keep moving.
- The Alberta RCMP – as the local police of jurisdiction – are managing the situation. We thank them for their tireless efforts in the face of significant challenges.
- RCMP are best suited to speak to operational details.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: Convoy

High-Level Convoy Lines

- All Canadians have a right to free and peaceful assembly under the Charter – at the same time, hateful symbols and rhetoric have no place on Parliament Hill or anywhere in Canada.
- Since the start of this event we have seen the brandishing of hateful symbols, the desecration of sacred spaces like the National War Memorial, and reports of threats and harassment against Ottawa residents and businesses.
- Let us be clear – this type of behaviour is unacceptable and unCanadian.
- In response to the City of Ottawa’s recent state of emergency declaration, our government is proposing to convene a trilateral table with our municipal and provincial counterparts.
- This table will build on the consistent conversation and collaboration that has taken place since the start of this event, and will ensure even stronger communication between all partners.
- We look forward to engaging further with all levels of government as we continue to support the Ottawa Police Service in their work as the police of jurisdiction.

TRANSPORT: Convoy

High-Level Lines

- We know that the biggest threat to our supply chains is COVID-19.
- We also know that the best tool to protect the economy is vaccines.
- Almost 90 per cent of Canadian truckers are vaccinated.
- We are in regular contact with industry partners (including CTA) to ensure these measures are applied effectively and the flow of goods is maintained across the border, so we can keep our shelves stocked and our economy moving.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Russia and Ukraine + Taiwan + North Korea

Ukraine – Travel Advisory for Canadians

- Our top priority is the safety and security of Canadians.
- Since February 1st, we have advised Canadians to avoid all travel to Ukraine due to increased Russian threats and military buildup near Ukraine's border.
- We have updated our travel advice for Canadians in Ukraine to suggest that they leave while commercial means are available.
- Canadian travellers should register with the Registration of Canadians Abroad service to get the latest updates on the situation.

Ukraine – Diplomatic Solution

- Canada was the first western country to recognize Ukraine's independence, and Canada and Ukraine continue to share a close relationship.
- Everything we do is motivated by our pursuit of de-escalation and a diplomatic solution.
- We will continue to work with our allies to coordinate and complement our responses to deter further Russian aggression.
- Canada has imposed sanctions on more than 440 individuals and entities, many in coordination with our allies, since Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014.
- Our position is clear: Russia must de-escalate, show transparency in its military activities and engage in meaningful dialogue.

Russia – Sanctions

- Canada is steadfast in our support of Ukraine’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence.
- Canada has imposed sanctions on more than 440 individuals and entities, many in coordination with our allies, since Russia’s illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014.
 - Canada has sanctioned 120 individuals and 81 entities related to Russia’s violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.
 - Canada has sanctioned 202 individuals and 42 entities related to Russia’s illegal annexation of Crimea and the ongoing Russian occupation in parts of eastern Ukraine.
 - Additionally, Canada has frozen the assets of 18 individuals to facilitate the recovery of misappropriated and embezzled Ukrainian property and to ensure accountability, rule of law, and a transition to democracy in Ukraine under the Freezing Assets of Corrupt Foreign Officials (Ukraine) Regulations.
- We will continue to work with our allies to coordinate our responses to deter further Russian aggression.

Taiwan – High-Level

- We are preoccupied with the recent tensions in the Taiwan Strait.
- We urge all parties to refrain from actions that undermine peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.
- But we also recognize the need to for us to support security and stability in the Indo-Pacific as a whole.
- We are working with our like-minded partners to do just that.
- For example, we already do so by taking part in operations in the region, most recently through the involvement of Canada’s frigate HMCS Winnipeg.

North Korea – Missiles Tests

- Canada is deeply concerned with reports of North Korea's latest launches of ballistic missiles.
- We call on North Korea to comply with its international obligations and take concrete steps toward the complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of its weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programme.
- These missile launches violate United Nations Security Council resolutions and are a direct threat to international peace and security.
- Canada has imposed comprehensive autonomous sanctions under the Special Economic Measures Act, which includes a ban on all trade with North Korea, with limited humanitarian exemptions.
- Canada supports efforts to restrain North Korea's dangerous actions and reinforce security in the region.

Additional DND information:

- Recently, the HMCS Winnipeg completed a successful deployment to the Indo-Pacific.
- It had embarked on a 4-month deployment to the Indo-Pacific under Operation PROJECTION.
- During Winnipeg's deployment, approximately one and a half months was dedicated to Operation NEON, Canada's contribution to the coordinated multinational effort to support the implementation of United Nations Security Council sanctions imposed against North Korea.
- Winnipeg's deployment demonstrates Canada's continued commitment to work with like-minded allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific and to support government objectives to uphold the rules-based international order and international law.